SAN FRANCISCO

LAWN BOWLING CLUB ◆ EST. 1901

A LIVING LEGACY IN GOLDEN GATE PARK

Welcome to SFLBC

Congratulations and welcome to the historic San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club! You're now part of a 250+ member club committed to enjoying lawn bowls and contributing to an inclusive, vibrant community. This booklet offers a quick guide to the basics of SFLBC life—but the best way to learn is by rolling bowls with fellow members.

This guide provides the information you need to navigate the Clubhouse and greens.

SFLBC Website: www.sflbc.org

Visit the Club website for the link to the online **SFLBC Reservation System** (a Google spreadsheet), which contains useful information, including how to sign up for chip games, the monthly social bowl, and tournaments. This is where you add your name in the time slot when you plan to bowl.

Saturday, April 18	Sunday, April 19	Monday, April 20	Tuesday, April 21	Wednesday, April 22
REC. TOURNAMENT #2	SAN JOSE CLASSIC 4/18 & 4/19 IN SAN JOSE	CLICK TO SEE SFLBC NEWS	CLICK TO SEE SFLBC NEWS;	CLICK TO SEE SFLBC NEWS;
FORMAT WILL BE 2 JACK PAIRS. TWO (2), 8-END GAMES. TEAMS WILL BE DRAWN DURING ANNOUNCMENTS. $7 DOLLAR FEE TO PLAY. SIGN UP BY April 7th	UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, BOWLING WILL BE ON GREEN 3	UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, BOWLING WILL BE ON GREEN 3	UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, BOWLING WILL BE ON GREEN 3	UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, BOWLING WILL BE ON GREEN 3
SIGN UP sflbctds@gmail.com	GREEN MATS NOT REQUIRED UNLESS DAMAGE IS NOTED	GREEN MATS NOT REQUIRED UNLESS DAMAGE IS NOTED	GREEN MATS NOT REQUIRED UNLESS DAMAGE IS NOTED	GREEN MATS NOT REQUIRED UNLESS DAMAGE IS NOTED
THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE IS INTRODUCING A NEW TOURNAMENT SERIES THAT WILL INCLUDE PLAYING 2 GAMES IN THE MORNING AND A SOCIAL GATHERING AFTER THE BOWLING. THERE WILL BE ONE REC. TOURNAMENT A MONTH FROM FEB. TO NOV. A VARIETY OF FORMATS WILL BE PLAYED EACH MONTH.	The Coaches & Membership Committee members invite members (In particular novices or those who want to improve their bowls' skills) to join them in a 10 AM draw game (and a bit of noshing). No fee; name chips on the table by 9:45 AM. But please sign up below.;	HOW CAN I FIND A TEAM SO I CAN PLAY IN A TOURNAMENT? THIS IS A VERY COMMON QUESTION FOR NEW MEMBERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLAY BUT NEED A TEAM. GO TO THE TOURNAMENT DATE AND ENTER YOUR NAME IN THE COLUMN. THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS WILL FOLLOW UP WITH YOU.	HOW CAN I FIND A TEAM SO I CAN PLAY IN A TOURNAMENT? THIS IS A VERY COMMON QUESTION FOR NEW MEMBERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLAY BUT NEED A TEAM. GO TO THE TOURNAMENT DATE AND ENTER YOUR NAME IN THE COLUMN. THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS WILL FOLLOW UP WITH YOU.	HOW CAN I FIND A TEAM SO I CAN PLAY IN A TOURNAMENT? THIS IS A VERY COMMON QUESTION FOR NEW MEMBERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLAY BUT NEED A TEAM. GO TO THE TOURNAMENT DATE AND ENTER YOUR NAME IN THE COLUMN. THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS WILL FOLLOW UP WITH YOU.

SFLBC Reservation System

Access to SFLBC Clubhouse

Every member creates a 6-digit number that can be used to enter both the east and west side of the Clubhouse. **See Contact List**.

Bowling Options[1]

A variety of bowling options are available to each member. The **SFLBC Reservation System** is your next best friend: https://tinyurl.com/y5numsoc All events are free unless stated.

Each member receives a chip with their name that hangs on the member board inside the Clubhouse. Place the chip on the table to join social games and the Monthly Social Bowl.

Club Social Bowling: Tuesdays and Thursdays - 10:00 AM (chip by 9:45), 12:30 PM (chip by 12:15)

Monthly Social Bowl: On the 2nd Thursday of the month, members join for an informal draw tournament, with the same times as Social Bowl. There are snacks and prize money. Entry fees apply.

Sunday Bowling: 10 AM with coach (many Sundays)

Tournaments: 1/2 day recreational, All-day tournaments + PIMD (Pacific InterMountain Division: 12 member clubs!). Entry fees apply.

Private Bowling and Practice: The green is available from 10:00 AM to dusk, 6 days a week. Wednesdays from 2:00 PM until dusk, and sometimes for night bowling.

Bowls Use, Equipment & Locker Access

SFLBC maintains an inventory of used bowls that members can check out for personal use. The bowls must be returned after your bowling session.

If you are interested in purchasing a used set of bowls, **see the Contact List**.

Each member is expected to have personal equipment such as a measure, chalk, and grip aids. Jacks are available in the equipment sheds. Contact SFLBCmerch@gmail.com to purchase accessories.

Once you own a set of bowls, you may request a locker. Lockers are shared. **See Contact List.**

Communication

Every member will receive general SFLBC emails. SFLBC offers an optional group email for club-related communication, including event invitations, advice, and requests for help. Expressions of political and religious content are not appropriate for this forum.

To opt-in, visit:

https://groups.io/g/sflbc

Every member will be included in the SFLBC directory and receive a copy via email.

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[1] Times and dates are subject to change. Check the spreadsheet for real-time information.

Games and Practice

Setting up the rink the first time can be daunting, so showing up for Club Social Bowl (a.k.a. Chip Game) is the best way to learn the ropes.

A checklist for set-up:

- Direction Board: See the Clubhouse display
- Equipment Shed Key: Located inside the east side of the Clubhouse
- Bird Nets: Must be pulled back and replaced after play
- Return all rink equipment and lock sheds
- Large green mats: To be used whenever the greens are more vulnerable to damage (during rain or when the greens are soft and prone to divots).
- IMPORTANT: Return the key to the Clubhouse

Guest Policy

A member may invite up to 2 guests (12 & older) after completing 3 bowling sessions and demonstrating sufficient experience with SFLBC procedures.

A 3-visit limit per guest is permitted; after that, they must either join the member track or pay a $10 daily drop-in fee (Venmo, Zelle, or cash).

A member and guest must be signed in on the online SFLBC Reservation Sheet prior to play.

All guests must sign a Release of Liability waiver, and large green mats must be used during the bowling session.

Finished for the Day

Turn off the lights • Spread the nets • Close and lock the doors, windows, gates, and sheds

Social Media Channels

For more Club news and to connect with lawn bowlers around the globe.

Facebook • Instagram • TikTok (soon)

SFLBC Mission

To promote physical and emotional well-being in a supportive environment through the sport of lawn bowling and other social interactions. (Members/San Francisco Residents/Everyone who has an interest in lawn bowling)

SFLBC Vision

A community of lawn bowlers that supports and extends the sport, social engagement and legacy of the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club, now and for future generations.

SFLBC Core Values

Joy

To promote a culture that embraces a sense of belonging and having fun through play and sport.

Respect

To provide a friendly, respectful, and welcoming environment for members, guests, and supporters.

Growth

Assist members in realizing their full potential by offering coaching, mentoring, and programs to develop and maintain skills and abilities on the greens and within the organization.

Integrity

Act in a fair, transparent, and honorable manner to ensure the viability of all SFLBC programs and activities.

Inclusiveness

To structure events and programs that provide affordable and accessible participation for members of varying ages and abilities.

Participation

To promote our members' physical and emotional well-being and to encourage volunteerism and leadership among our members for the governance, maintenance, and promotion of our sport and its facilities.

Sportsmanship

Understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior, and general goodwill toward an opponent.

Accountability

Acceptance of our personal and organizational responsibilities as stewards of the SFLBC, a historic community asset.

BowlsUSA

BOWL ON THE FOREHAND
Extend your left arm to the side
(if bowler is righthanded).

BOWL ON THE BACKHAND
Extend your right arm to the side
(if bowler is righthanded).

THIS IS OUR BOWL
Point closely to the bowl
and tap your shoulder or chest.

THIS IS THEIR BOWL
Point closely to the bowl
and wave your arm away.

SHOTS FOR US
Tap your shoulder or head.

SHOTS AGAINST US
Tap your leg.

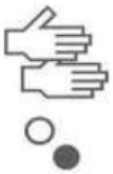
WATCH THE HEAD
Before throwing a "runner," simulate
a fast delivery with your bowling arm.

HAVE YOUR BOWL STOP HERE
Put your foot where you want
the bowl to finish and point to it.

BOWLS ARE TOUCHING
Touch knuckles together.

WHERE IS THE JACK?
Bending down,
hold your palm forward.

THE SHOT IS A MEASURE
Wave hands apart, together,
apart as if measuring.



THE BOWL IS THIS FAR IN FRONT OR BEHIND OF THE JACK
Spread your hands one above the other. **NOTE: Always give the DEPTH distance** not the WIDTH.

CHALK MY TOUCHER
Cross your hands at your wrist
and hold them in front of you.

Lawn Bowls Hand Signals

LET YOUR HANDS TO DO THE TALKING

1. Voices cannot be heard over the sounds of road and air traffic.
2. Shouting disturbs players on the rinks.
3. Your team will feel more in sync if you can read each others signals.
4. Signals will help communication and the flow of the game.
5. You can signal without drawing attention of your oppents to certain situations.

RULE NUMBER 1:

You can ONLY communicate with your team when you have possession of the mat.

RULE NUMBER 2:

Give information (especially the Vice) ONLY when asked for.

The Etiquette of Lawn Bowling[2]

The sport of lawn bowling is conducted in an atmosphere of fellowship and sociability. The following are not the rules of the game, they are common acts of courtesy—the unwritten rules of the sport.

General Courtesies

- Pay quiet attention when pregame announcements are being made.
- Listen attentively when names are being called for the draw of a game.
- Move promptly to your assigned rink and greet your opponents and teammates.
- Wear your name badge for easy identification.
- Be sure your bowls bag is moved as far back as possible on the bank. Please do not leave it on a bench after you've removed your bowls.
- Fist bump or shake your opponents' and teammates' hands and wish them a good game.
- Be ready to play promptly at the beginning of the game and on each subsequent end.
- Stand 4–6 feet behind the mat and don't talk or move about when your opponent is on the mat and about to deliver the jack or a bowl.
- Remember, a player has full possession of the mat until a delivered bowl comes to rest.
- Following a delivered bowl down the rink should be avoided. It's not against the rules, but it can be a distraction for players on adjoining rinks.
- The Skip should always be at the head.
- Never be critical of the play of your opponents or teammates.
- Do not use profanities.
- Don't forget the customary fistbumps/handshakes at the end of the game.

Team Roles

The first objective of the game is to have FUN, then compete. There's always tomorrow, no one's perfect, and everyone improves. The best stories come from losing 20 to 3 (ouch!). Note: In a Pairs Game, the roles of Lead and Vice are combined.

[2]Adapted from publications of the Pasadena LBC and Tweeds Head BC of Australia

Lead

- The Skips will flip a coin at the outset of a game to see who gets the mat (goes first).
- Center the mat on the rink's centerline.
- Try to deliver the jack to the spot indicated by your Skip.
- Play each bowl as directed by your Skip; if in doubt, ask.
- Retire promptly to the bank when your last bowl comes to rest.
- Stand behind the Vice when at the head end of the rink.

Vice (In a Triples Game)

- Mark touchers (a bowl that hits the jack) with chalk.
- Be prepared to measure the distance between the opponent's and your team's bowls and the jack if there's a question of who has the point.
- Help your opponent measure when necessary.
- Only direct play when asked by the Skip.
- Use hand signals to communicate to the Skip the points won or lost in each end.
- When the end is completed, hand the jack to the Lead who has the mat on the next end.

Skip

- As the team leader, the Skip's job is to encourage, help, and provide POSITIVE direction ALWAYS.
- Helpful play includes: showing the line, reporting the distance of a bowl, showing the Lead and Vice where to bowl.
- Assess a new member's learning style and refrain from overcoaching.
- The Skip's decision is final.

Carefully Observe the Following

- Don't walk up the rink until all players are ready to move.
- Don't walk on adjoining rinks.
- If you're at the head end of the rink, stand at least 6 feet behind the jack (exceptions: the Skip or Vice having possession of the mat).
- Avoid having your shadow obscure the jack.
- Do not move at the head end of the rink when a player is on the mat and about to deliver a bowl.
- Help keep the game moving by kicking in bowls when an end is completed.
- Keep negative opinions of the quality of a green to yourself—they won't improve it.
- Follow SFLBC rules regarding proper dress: white when required or suggested, otherwise casual clothing.

CONTACT LIST

New Member Support: Shancha(Ja) Lei 雷祥家 (mslei2@yahoo.com, 415-425-8353)

Door Codes and Lockers: Mike Davis (mldkingsf@gmail.com, 415-726-4424)

Additional Coaching or Bowls: Andrew Keeler (akeeler@gmail.com, 415-699-5435)

Visiting SFLBC from another club: Andrew Keeler (akeeler@gmail.com, 415-699-5435)

SFLBC Merchandize including markers and chalk: sflbcmerch@gmail.com

WELCOME to an expanding community of bowlers!

By paying your annual dues to SFLBC, you have become a member of PIMD, Bowls USA (the national governing body), and World Bowls (the global governing body for lawn bowling).

Pacific InterMountain Division (PIMD)

The Pacific InterMountain Division (PIMD) is the regional governing body for lawn bowling in Northern California and Nevada.PIMD is proud to support a vibrant network of **12 lawn bowling clubs** spanning across Northern California and Nevada. From the heart of the Bay to the rolling greens of the Sierra foothills, our member clubs foster community, competition, and a love of the game.

Bowls USA (BUSA)

Your membership connects you to bowlers throughout the country and around the world. Even more importantly, your support helps us sustain and grow a sport that brings people together through competition, camaraderie, and fun. Check out the BUSA Resource Book: https://www.bowlsusa.us/resource-ebook.html